

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 AUGUST 1984

Gulf Conflict

The Greek tanker *Endeavor* suffered "slight damage" in an air attack on 18 August near Qatar, according to a Kuwaiti oil source cited by KUNA. In the only monitored Iranian and Iraqi reportage of the incident, Tehran radio cited Manama shipping sources who stated that an unnamed Panamanian tanker was attacked in the "Persian Gulf by an unidentified plane," while Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio referred to an AP report that stated without mentioning an attack that a fire had broken out aboard an unnamed Panamanian tanker near Bahrain. KUNA identified the *Endeavor* as the tanker involved in the attack, and pointed out that earlier press reports had misidentified it as Panamanian.

Red Sea

British, U.S., and Egyptian minehunters began operations in the Gulf of Suez area on 17 August and have not yet discovered any mines, MENA reported. The first French minesweeping flotilla arrived in Jidda on 18 August and will be joined by additional French vessels the following week, Paris radio added. Meanwhile, Soviet minesweepers have been combing the waters off the PDRY for several days, AFP reported on 20 August citing informed Egyptian sources.

In a related development, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, in remarks to the Paris weekly *AL-MUSTAQBAL* cited by MENA, stated that his country is ready to participate in a conference of Red Sea Arab littoral countries that would reach a unified program to ensure security in the area. He also affirmed that Egypt will close the Suez Canal to any ships belonging to countries that threaten Egypt's security and safety. Concerning this Egyptian policy, Iranian Majlis Speaker Val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani warned in his Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio that if an Iranian vessel were to be delayed in the Suez Canal under the "pretext of inspection," then a ship belonging to Egypt's "clique" will be delayed in the Hormuz Strait in "retribution." He added that Iran has neither the power nor the policy to mine the Suez area. In response to Hashemi-Rafsanjani's warning, Cairo radio cited the Cairo paper *AL-AKHBAR*'s contention that there is no "justification" for his remarks, and that Egypt's measures are "not directed against anyone."

Lebanon

Security Situation — The security situation has "deteriorated seriously" along the Ash-Shuwayfat — Kafr Shima and Suq al-Gharb — 'Aytat lines in the mountain area, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported on 19 August. The radio blamed the Phalangist militia and the Lebanese Army for continuing the clashes that occurred 17 and 18 August. However,

the Voice of Lebanon radio claimed that the "socialists and their allies" are causing the sniping and shelling in the area, while the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon blamed "Junblatt gunmen" for instigating the fighting that began as early as 16 August. The latter radio also reported that the military attache at the Greek Embassy was wounded during an assassination attempt in Beirut on 19 August.

Al-Awwali Bridge Closure — The Batir ash-Shuf Bridge across the Al-Awwali River was closed on 20 August for 3 days, Jerusalem radio reported. The closure is aimed at implementing "security measures" that will lead to tighter control over the passage of vehicles and goods into southern Lebanon. Lebanese Government officials, however, believe that the closure is a punitive measure taken in "retaliation" for the closure of Israel's representation in Beirut, the radio added.

Jordan

In an interview with Cable News Network broadcast by Amman Television on 18 August, Jordan's King Husayn renewed the call for an international peace conference on the Middle East based on UN Security Council Resolution No 242. The conference would include "all parties concerned" as well as the permanent members of the Security Council. According to an Israeli Government spokesman cited by the *JERUSALEM POST* on 20 August, Israel rejects Husayn's proposal because the solution to the conflict must be based on "direct talks" between the two countries.

Pakistan

DRA Attacks — In a statement broadcast by Kabul radio on 17 August, the Afghan Foreign Ministry "completely" rejected Pakistani protests concerning Afghan attacks on Pakistani territory on 13 and 14 August, describing the claims as "completely baseless and lacking in truth." Through such "accusations and baseless fabrications," the statement continued, Pakistan hopes to hide the fact that it has been transformed into a "base of aggression and undeclared war of imperialism and reaction" against the DRA. Meanwhile, Afghan planes and artillery again attacked Pakistani territory near Parachinar on 18 August, killing 16 people and wounding 6 others, Karachi radio reported.

Aeroflot Explosion — An explosion "slightly damaged" the Karachi office of Aeroflot on 18 August, Karachi radio reported, citing a Pakistani agency.

Foreign Minister Gulf Tour — Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan departed Doha on 20 August after a 3-day visit to Qatar, WAKH reported. The foreign minister had earlier met with leaders in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, KUNA noted.

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Vol VIII CMDrcv MODFMT-EDNo 162

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Government Rejects Pakistani Air Attack Claims
LD171742 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
17 Aug 84

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Pakistan was summoned to the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1130 hours today and the recent claims of this country about the territorial violation of Pakistan by the so-called Afghan aircraft were rejected in the following manner by the official of the First Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

The Government of Pakistan has recently claimed that some Afghan aircraft have violated the territory of this country and shelled some positions.

According to the information of the DRA relevant authorities, the claims of the Pakistani authorities are completely baseless and lacking in truth.

These baseless claims of the Pakistani authorities are by no means a new thing. In the past when someone from the ruling circles of Pakistan paid a visit to Western countries and China or the leaders of these countries paid visits to Pakistan, or when the new round of talks between the two countries or sessions of the UN General Assembly were imminent, the Pakistani authorities, in a bid to make political and propaganda gains, have also embarked on total fabrications.

By embarking on such accusations and baseless fabrications, the Pakistani authorities want to cover up the fact that Pakistan has been transformed into a base of aggression and undeclared war of imperialism and reaction against revolutionary Afghanistan.

By such means they also endeavor to create further obstacles to the process of the Geneva talks and to wage once again a hue and cry and hostile activities against our country in the UN General Assembly.

Such baseless claims are not unrelated to the recent visit of the Pakistani minister of foreign affairs to some countries and hostile speeches exchanged during these visits. Under the cover of this ridiculous scenario are the fabrications and forgeries of Washington and Beijing, who in their terms are striving to further intensify the situation in the region in order to attain their evil political objectives.

Such lies and fabrications have already lost their importance and effectiveness.

In rejecting completely the false claims of the rulers of Islamabad, the DRA announces that the DRA is a peace-loving country and has never had any intention of violating another country, although it has been the target of aggression and thievish interference from the territory of Pakistan which has continued for nearly 6 years. It is better that the military authorities of Pakistan, instead of embarking on lies and fabrication, should think of ending their open interference in the internal affairs of our country as soon as possible; otherwise, they must accept the consequences of the continuation of their aggressive policy and self-serving propaganda.

DRA Replies to USSR Anniversary Greetings
LD200634 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 18, BAKHTAR — The PDPA CC, the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers of the DRA sent a reply message to Soviet leaders Konstantin Chernenko and Nikolay Tikhonov on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of the regaining the independence of Afghanistan.

"We recall with deep gratitude on this auspicious day," the message said, that the Soviet Union, under the leadership of the great Lenin, was the first country to stretch the self-less hand of friendship to Afghanistan.

"The official recognition of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union and the conclusion of friendship treaties between our two countries are important historical events, which constitute the basis for best neighbourly relations, non-interference in each others affairs, respect to national sovereignty, national integrity and mutual valuable cooperation."

"The victory of the (?national) democratic revolution in Afghanistan (1978) under the leadership of the PDPA, has further strengthened the friendship between the two countries. The friendship and cooperation treaty concluded in 1978 strengthened the Leninist principled ties between two countries, which have transformed into unshakable fraternal relations.

"The PDPA, the Government of the DRA and all the people of Afghanistan express their cordial gratitudes for the revolutionary support, brotherly and internationalist assistance rendered by the heroic people of the USSR in the most harsh conditions of the undeclared war of imperialism."

"We, on behalf of the PDPA CC, Revolutionary Council, the Government of the DRA and all the people of Afghanistan wish further successes for the Leninist Central Committee, Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Government of the USSR and all the people of the USSR and you in person and dear comrades in your constructive efforts for the sake of prosperity and welfare of the Soviet people in their struggle for the preservation and strengthening of peace and security on our planet," the message concluded.

Dost Departs For Third Stage of Geneva Talks
LD191628 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
19 Aug 84

[Text] A delegation led by Shah Mohammad Dost, the DRA minister of foreign affairs, left for Geneva this morning to take part in the third stage of talks concerning the situation around Afghanistan. The talks are to include the foreign ministers of DRA and Pakistan, as well as Diego Cordovez, the representative of the UN secretary general. Commerce Minister Mohammad Khan Jalalar, Deputy Foreign Minister Sakhi Daneshjo, and several high ranking officials were present at Kabul airport to see off Shah Mohammad Dost.

Further on Andhra Pradesh Controversy

Opposition Members Walk Out

*BK171305 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
17 Aug 84*

[Excerpt] The Lok Sabha speaker, Mr Balram Jakhar, today admitted a substantive motion of Mr Madhu Dandavate, Janata, for a discussion on the role of the Andhra Pradesh governor, Mr Ram Lal, in dismissing the N.T. Rama Rao ministry.

In the Rajya Sabha, the leader of the house, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, assured the members that a discussion on the Andhra developments can be had on Tuesday. Both the houses witnessed uproarious scenes over the issue. The opposition did not allow the scheduled business to be transacted for the major part of the day and the two houses had to be adjourned three or four times.

In the Lok Sabha, the speaker, Mr Balram Jakhar, made it clear from the very beginning that the governor's action can be discussed only on a substantive motion. Later in the afternoon, he informed the members that the government is ready for a discussion but they have to decide the time. He told the members that everything has to be done in accordance with rules and procedures of the house. When the house reassembled at 1530 to take up a private member's business, the opposition members walked out raising slogans and stayed away from the proceedings for the rest of the day.

Chief Minister on Violence

*BK171630 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
17 Aug 84*

[Text] The Andhra Pradesh chief minister, Mr N. Bhaskara Rao, said in Hyderabad this evening that 8 persons were killed and 10 others injured in separate incidents of police firing today as sporadic violence erupted during the state-wide bundh [strike]. The call for the bundh was given by some non-Congress-I opposition parties in protest against the dismissal of the Rama Rao ministry. Two members of legislative assembly were arrested in Hyderabad in connection with the bundh. The chief minister told newsmen that it is not correct to say that Mr Rama Rao was arrested yesterday at Raj Bhavan [Governor's House]. The fact was that he along with 21 legislators, courted arrest.

According to police sources, state transport buses were attacked and telephone services disrupted at some places. The railway track between Rajampet and (Kudur) was tampered with affecting through running of trains on Madras-Bombay section. The situation is reported to be peaceful at Vijayavada, Visakhapatnam, and other important centers in the coastal and Telengana Districts.

Police Kill 9 Strikers

OW172011 Hong Kong AFP in English 2004 GMT 17 aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 17 (AFP) — Nine people were killed and seven wounded in police firing in Andhra Pradesh today, during a general strike over the dismissal of the opposition-controlled

government in the state yesterday, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

Today's incidents brought the number of people killed since yesterday in police shootings to quell violence in the southern state to 11.

Two people were killed yesterday within hours of the dismissal by State Governor Ram Lal of the Telugu Desam Party administration, headed by film actor turned politician Nandamuri Rama Rao.

The governor said Mr. Rama Rao had lost a working majority following floorcrossings by some Deam members, and installed a new administration headed by N. Bhaskara Rao, leader of the breakaway group from Desam.

1 Person Killed

*BK180745 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
18 Aug 84*

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh one person was killed when police opened fire on a mob which attacked the police station in (Kudur) in Cuddapah District last night. With this the death toll in the recent violence in the state has gone up to 11. One inspector and nine policemen were injured in stone throwing in Anandpur district.

In New Delhi the Congress-I has categorically denied that the party or the central government had anything to do with the way the events developed in Andhra Pradesh. It has appealed to the people to judge the developments in the state in their correct perspective.

In a statement last evening, one of the party general secretaries, (Mr Abdul Gaffoor), alleged that Mr N.T. Rama Rao was mismanaging the affairs of the state government and the Telugu Desam Party. Referring to Mr Rama Rao's stand on the Punjab issue, Mr (Gaffoor) said it showed his lack of concern for the integrity and unity of the country.

As a result his government has fallen under the weight of its own contradiction. Regarding the formation of the new government in the state, the statement says the governor's judgment may be unpalatable to the opposition, but it does not [word indistinct] to be a constitutional decision and must be respected by those who believe in democracy.

Meanwhile, three opposition leaders, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, Mr H.M. Bahuguna, and Dr Farooq Abdullah have criticized the dismissal of the N.T. Rama Rao ministry. They were addressing the meeting of Telugu Desam legislators supporting Mr Rama Rao in Hyderabad. As already reported both houses of parliament will discuss the developments in Andhra Pradesh and the role of the state government.

Both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha yesterday witnessed uproarious scenes over the Andhra situation. For the best part of the day neither house was able to transact their scheduled business and had to be adjourned several times.

6 Killed by Police

BK191619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, six persons were killed in police firing at two places in Chittur District today. According to police sources, five persons were killed when police opened fire to disperse a violent mob at (Chinnatippasamudram) and another at Patur. There are also reports of removal of fishplates from railway track near (Udumpet) and burning of two railway bridges. A railway spokesman said a railway engine was derailed and its driver was injured. The train services between (Kakbari) and Tirupati have been canceled.

Opposition Leaders Demand Reinstatement

BK200311 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] At a rally in Hyderabad yesterday, opposition leaders demanded that the decision of the Andhra Pradesh governor to dismiss the N.T. Rama Rao ministry should be reversed. They claimed that Mr Rama Rao enjoyed majority support. Those who addressed the rally included the Lok Dal leader, Mr Charan Singh; the Congress-S president, Mr Sharad Pawar; the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah; the Communist Party of India (CPI) leader, Mr Samar Mukherjee; Mr Raj Shekhar Reddy of CPI; Mr Shanti Bhushan, Bharatiya Janata Party; and the president of the Democratic Socialist Party, Mr H.N. Bahuguna. Mr Rama Rao also addressed the rally.

The situation in the Chittur District of Andhra Pradesh is under control. According to police, no untoward incident has been reported since last night. Yesterday, six persons were killed at two places in the district when police opened fire to disperse violent mobs.

Bomb Scare Delays Plane

BK200858 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] An official spokesman of the Raj Bhavan [Governor's House] in Hyderabad has denied reports appearing in a section of the press that the Andhra Pradesh governor, Mr Ram Lal, had declined to meet the non-Congress-I opposition leaders and supporters of Mr N.T. Rama Rao on Wednesday [15 August] evening. The spokesman clarified that the governor received the delegation who conveyed to him Mr Rama Rao's proposal for convening a session of the state assembly on the 18th. The governor advised the delegation to intimate the final decision on the matter by the following morning.

Leaders of various opposition parties held a meeting in New Delhi to protest against the dismissal of N.T. Rama Rao's ministry in Andhra Pradesh and work out their plan of action. The meeting presided over by the Lok Dal president, Mr Charan Singh, appointed a 11-member steering committee for the purpose. The meeting also discussed the proposal for mass resignation of members of parliament, but no decision was taken. The

Congress-S leader, Mr Sharad Pawar, who briefed the press said the leaders of the opposition parties propose to call on the president tomorrow. Fifty-two prominent members of the opposition attended the meeting. They included Mr Chandra Shekhar, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, Mr Jagjivan Ram, Mr Rajeshwar Rao, Mr C.T. Dandapane, Mr Karunanidhi, Mr Chandrajit Yadev, and Mr (Bassaw Pallavi).

The former Andhra Pradesh chief minister Mr N.T. Rama Rao could not take off because of a false bomb scare. The plane, however, left for Delhi around noon.

Rao Arrives in Delhi

BK201027 Hong Kong AFP in English 1014 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 20 (AFP) — Ousted chief minister of Andhra Pradesh N.T. Rama Rao arrived here today to protest his dismissal in the midst of reports that police killed 25 of his supporters in weekend violence in the south Indian state.

The ailing 61-year-old leader, who had bypass heart surgery in the United States last month, was ushered out of the aircraft in a wheel chair and did not speak to waiting reporters or his supporters.

His aides said he would meet Indian President Zail Singh today to state that his dismissal last Thursday was unconstitutional. The sacking has led to violence in the state in which police have killed 25 of Mr. Rama Rao's supporters, according to unofficial reports.

The plane was more than four hours late after a bomb scare at the state capital of Hyderabad delayed its departure, airport officials said. Security staff found only two fire crackers in the luggage of unidentified passengers.

A train carrying pro-Rama Rao legislators left Hyderabad yesterday, although there were reports that the new chief minister, N. Bhaskara Rao, had ordered their reservations cancelled, the daily *INDIAN EXPRESS* said.

Mr. Rama Rao of the regional Telugu Desam Party was dismissed by the state governor, Ram Lal, a former national ruling Congress (I) Party member, on the grounds that he had lost his majority following some defections from the Desam Party.

AFP Details Madras, Hyderabad Bomb Scares

BK201232 Hong Kong AFP in English 1222 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 20 (AFP) — Bomb scares today forced the Madras High Court to close and a New Delhi-bound flight to evacuate passengers in Hyderabad, *PRESS TRUST OF INDIA* (PTI) reported. Four more bomb scares were reported yesterday in various places across India.

Nearly 3,000 staff and lawyers rushed out of the Madras court following a bomb scare and a flight from Hyderabad carrying ousted state Chief Minister Nandamuri Rama Rao was forced to evacuate passengers minutes before scheduled take-off

because of a bomb threat, PTI said. A search was still under way at the sprawling court complex.

No bombs were found on the Hyderabad flight, which was delayed for more than four hours.

Bomb hoaxes yesterday forced an Airbus flight to return shortly after take-off from New Delhi for Bangalore, twice disrupted airport communications in Madras, and forced searches in airports in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh state, and Bangalore, Karnataka, PTI said.

A bomb blast killed 29 people in Madras airport on August 2.

15 Policemen, 6 People Injured in Jammu Clash

BK191629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] In the border town of Khor in Jammu District, police resorted to lathi [baton] charge and fire in the air yesterday when some miscreants pelted stones on the police station and other government buildings.

They were demanding the release of a person being interrogated by police in connection with a criminal case.

An official spokesman said in Jammu today that one police [word indistinct] and some buildings were damaged; 15 policemen and half a dozen people were injured. The situation in the area is peaceful today.

Sikhs Linked to Pro-Pakistan Network in Hijacking

BK191717 Hong Kong AFP in English 1710 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 19 (AFP) — India's Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) claimed today that it had established concrete links between Sikh extremists and a pro-Pakistani network in Kashmir in the hijacking of an Indian Airlines to Lahore, Pakistan last July 5.

CBI said in the Kashmir capital of Srinagar that it had made a breakthrough in its investigations after detaining two airlines employees and two others, one of them a state police officer's son. They have been named co-conspirators.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA quoted CBI as saying airlines leader Abdul Rashid had visited Pakistan several times and investigations had revealed his links with pro-Pakistani Kashmiris in the Vale of Kashmir. He had reportedly helped the hijackers clear security and managed three baggage tabs for them without verification.

CBI claimed that three of the hijackers had received special commando training in Pakistan-Held Kashmir.

The agency's special team had established the identities of all nine hijackers. Four were from Kashmir's Jammu region and the other were from Punjab, all members of the banned All India Sikh Students Federation.

Gandhi Urges South Africans To Oppose Elections

BK171229 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, has urged the people of South Africa, especially African, Colored, and Asian communities to oppose next week's elections there.

The elections aim at creating a 3-chamber parliament on racial lines.

In a special message to the UN Security Council, Mrs Gandhi, who is also the chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement, said the entire nonaligned world stands with the people of South Africa in their struggle for human rights.

Gandhi on Nuclear, Space Research Programs

BK181619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister has called for developing alternate sources of energy for saving forests. She has suggested involvement of school children who should be taught about conservation of environment. Mrs Gandhi was addressing the members of the parliamentary consultative committee attached to the scientific departments in New Delhi today.

These included the departments of atomic energy, science and technology, space, electronics, environment, and ocean development. Mrs Gandhi felt that interest should be generated among the people by and large for planting trees.

On achieving self-reliance in nuclear energy, the members were informed that India is the only developing country which has the technological capability to design, construct, and operate nuclear power reactors on its own. The foreign exchange content of nuclear power stations built by India has come down to about 10 percent only.

They were also informed that Pakistan is not more advanced than India in any aspect of peaceful uses of atomic energy. However, they were assured that the government is vigilant and taking necessary steps to safeguard the country's security interests.

About the activities in space research, the members were told that the model of the Indian remote sensing satellite is now being fabricated and tested. It is scheduled to be launched in the first half of 1986.

The Ocean Development Department will acquire a fourth research vessel called "Sagar Sampada" soon to speed up the department's activities.

The meeting was attended by the minister of state for science and technology, Mr Shivraj Patil; the deputy minister for electronics, Dr Sanjeevi Rao; and the deputy minister for environment, Mr Digvijay Singh.

16 Reported Killed by 'Karmal Regime's Forces'

*BK191032 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
19 Aug 84*

[Text] The Karmal regime's forces have violated Pakistan's airspace and shelled across the Pakistani border twice yesterday. During the second round violation between 1230 [0730 GMT] and 1245 [0745 GMT] across the border at Teri Mangal outpost, they fired 58 shells. As a result, 15 Afghan refugees and 1 Pakistani national were killed while 6 Afghan refugees and 5 Pakistani citizens were injured.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad this morning and a strong protest lodged with him at the continuing Afghan violations of Pakistani territory through indiscriminate shelling resulting in considerable loss of lives. Pakistan's permanent representative at the United Nations has been instructed to apprise the UN secretary general of this latest shelling of Pakistani territory by the Karmal regime and the loss of lives which occurred as a result thereof.

More on Shelling, Bombing

*BK190635 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
19 Aug 84*

[Excerpt] Pakistan's airspace has again been violated by aircraft from Afghanistan and Karmal regime troops fired artillery shells yesterday in the Teri Mangal outpost area in Pakistan's territory near Parachinar. Two civilians were killed and four others injured. It was officially stated in Islamabad last night that between 1145 [0645 GMT] and 1230 [0730 GMT] hours, Karmal regime troops fired 24 artillery shells of which 17 fell 1,400 yards in side Pakistan's territory. At 1200 hours [0700 GMT] yesterday, one Karmal regime aircraft flew over Teri Mangal outpost penetrating Pakistan's airspace by about 800 yards. It dropped a number of bombs on the area, but there were no casualties.

Ziaul Haq Defends Elections From Criticism

*BK191050 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
19 Aug 84*

[Text] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has reiterated his assurance that fair and free elections will be held to enable the masses to choose Pakistani and Islam-loving people as their representatives. He was addressing the councillors of Hyderabad municipal corporation this afternoon.

The president said the elections should be held on the Islamic system. He called upon the councillors to provide necessary guidance to the people to enable the country to pass through the election process peacefully and successfully.

Referring to the criticism in certain quarters that the forthcoming elections will be nothing but nomination, he pointed out that elections held on party basis are purely nomination since the party ticket is given to the members of parties contending the elections. He said such elements who are making such criticism wanted power for themselves. He said the government has already decided the procedure for the elections but the decision will be announced at the proper time. He said that it was his fervent wish that as a result of elections, a leadership may emerge which would serve the cause of Pakistan and Islam.

AFP Reports Explosion at Karachi Aeroflot Office

BK181617 Hong Kong AFP in English 1602 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Karachi, Aug 18 (AFP) — An explosion damaged the offices of the Soviet airline Aeroflot here today, slightly injuring a police officer on duty outside the building, it was learned here. The blast, which went off just after the office closed, destroyed the front window and damaged furniture inside, according to an employee of the nearby Taj Mahal Hotel.

3 Constables Injured

*BK190637 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
19 Aug 84*

[Text] In Karachi, an explosion slightly damaged the office of the Soviet airline Aeroflot last evening. Official sources told the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN that the explosion took place at 1905 [1405 BMT] when the office was closed. However, three constables on guard duty outside the office sustained minor injuries. Police have started an investigation to determine the cause of the explosion.

Correction to 17 August Pakistan Section

The table of contents and pagination for the Pakistan (F) section of the 17 August South Asia *DAILY REPORT* were incorrectly labeled as the India (E) section. The Pakistan section follows the India section with the headline "Spokesman on Restrictions on Afghan Refugees."

SRI LANKA

Delhi Reports on Renewed Violence in Jaffna

*BK171606 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
17 Aug 84*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the 2-day calm was shattered by bomb explosions in a bank in Jaffna last night.

Official sources in Colombo said the Tamil extremists threw bombs in the bank destroying its furniture and records. The building however escaped serious damage.

There were no reports of casualties.

Meanwhile, the government-sponsored round table conference on ethnic problems is scheduled to resume in Colombo this evening. Two parties, All Ceylon Tamil Congress and Communist Party of Sri Lanka, have already announced their boycott of the conference in protest against the military action in Tamil areas. They also alleged that the government is not interested in a political solution to the problem.

The Sri Lanka Freedom Party is already boycotting the conference. The main Tamil party in Sri Lanka, Tamil United Liberation Front, is yet to decide finally on participation in the conference.

TULF Announces Withdrawal From Conference

*BK171634 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
17 Aug 84*

[Text] When the All-Party Conference met in plenary session today at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, the President Jayewardene reported to the conference on works of the two committees appointed earlier.

The report of the officials and legal experts of committee-A, which was appointed to work out the structure, powers, and functions of the unit of devolution, will be considered by the committee on the 21st of August. The report of committee-B, which was appointed to consider measures that [words indistinct] be implemented with regard to the equalization of opportunities in education, employment, and exercise of language rights was tabled today at the conference.

Conference spokesman National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told newsmen at a briefing after the conference that the supreme council of the Maha Sangha [religious body] made a statement at the conference. He said that it was followed by a statement made by the TULF and at the conclusion of it the TULF announced that they were withdrawing from today's proceedings. The Ceylon Communist Party and the All Ceylon Tamil Congress did not attend the conference today.

The President Jayewardene then announced that the next meeting of the conference would be held on Tuesday, the 21st of August when discussions would take place. There will be no meetings tomorrow and on Sunday as announced earlier.

Delhi Reports Extension of State of Emergency

*BK180854 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
18 Aug 84*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the state of emergency has been extended for another month. Official sources in Colombo said President Jayewardene extended the 15-month-old emergency to allow the security forces to continue their campaign against Tamil extremists. Under the Sri Lanka Constitution, the state of emergency can be extended on monthly basis.

As already reported, the all-party round table conference on the ethnic question adjourned last night with the Tamil United Liberation Front walking out in protest against anti-Tamil violence in the country. In a statement, the TULF said that it cannot sit silently when Tamil-speaking people are being harassed and murdered by the Armed Forces. The All Ceylon Tamil Congress had already announced its boycott of the current session, while the Sri Lanka Communist Party withdrew from the conference altogether in protest against the military action.

Delhi Notes Jayewardene To Continue Talks

*BK191602 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
19 Aug 84*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the situation in the troubled northern province is peaceful after 2 weeks of clashes between the security forces and Tamil extremists. According to official sources, at least 95 people, including 12 belonging to security forces, have been killed in the clashes.

Meanwhile, President Jayewardene has said he will go ahead with the proposed setting up of a second parliamentary chamber in a bid to find a solution to the ethnic problem. Mr Jayewardene has canceled the round table conference scheduled for Tuesday and instead called a meeting of the heads of the delegations to discuss the details of the proposed second chamber.

Athulathmudali Calls for Discipline Among Troops

*BK200323 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
20 Aug 84*

[Text] The Sri Lankan national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, has called upon the country's military leaders to ensure adequate discipline among the troops. He was speaking at the (Digawattalawa) Military Academy in central Sri Lanka. The minister confirmed earlier this week that government soldiers had burnt down Tamil-owned shops in Mannar. He had pledged official action against those who went on the rampage.

The situation in the troubled northern province was reported peaceful yesterday. Official sources have put the death toll due to the recent violence at 95. President Jayewardene has canceled the round table conference scheduled for tomorrow. He has instead called a meeting of the heads of delegations to discuss the details of the proposed second parliamentary chamber aimed at solving the ethnic problem.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Retribution, Retaliation

LD171353 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
17 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Millions of our Muslim compatriots throughout the country have observed the auspicious Friday prayers ceremonies. Tehran's Muslim revolutionary citizens, with their extensive presence at Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares, today held the enemy-defeating Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In his second sermon, under the heading "The Principles and Program of the Policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran," Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Our fundamental policy, inspired by Islam and the tradition of the prophet and the Holy Koran and logic, is that lasting peace should exist in the region and that tension should be wiped out so that the divine message may continue to be spread. The export of the revolution is the same thing. We wish to provide the divine message to the deprived meek people of the world. Of course, we are certain that those whose interests do not coincide with this aim and message will oppose this. In Islam and other heavenly religions, jihad is not seen as conquering countries coupled with the shedding of blood. Jihad exists to breach the barriers and obstacles to the path of glorifying the voice of righteousness. One of the peculiarities of the infidels, according to the Koran, is that they bar the path of God. There are some 40 verses in the Koran which say that the clash with the infidels begins the moment they want to become an obstacle and barrier to the path of God.

If man completely overlooked retaliation in society, whether in foreign policy or domestic policy, he would be encouraging hegemonists and bullies to continue their hegemony and injustice. Today nobody could deny that the principle of retaliation in kind and of tit for tat is incorrect action. From the very beginning to the present time, whether before or after the war began, the Islamic Republic of Iran has followed and will follow this policy. We definitely did not wish to bring our force to bear on our opponents, but they began it all. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The film shown on television last night about the torture of committee guards by the hypocrites demonstrated the enemies we have fought.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani then quoted the holy verse of retribution in the Holy Koran and raised the issue of the imposed war: They began the imposed war against us. In the war too we are implementing the policy of retribution. The Koran graciously commands: Killing in the same way as others kill and a blow similar to the blow from others is life-creating for you and grants true life to man. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: To pardon is good, but if it results in encouraging the criminal, it is not permissible. Pardon is sometimes a personal right and sometimes a social right. Therefore, forgiving and pardon that are not in the interests of social rights are full of crime and sin and are against life and intellect. Our policy toward any crime or blow they might deal us is one of retaliation in kind.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council emphasized: Our neighbors should know that the Islamic Republic of Iran, as an Islamic force, will respond with might, as

far as it is capable, against unjust blows. With regard to the war, from the start we have not accepted the Iraqi Ba'thist Party. Nevertheless, we did not contemplate a war. But they began the war, coupled with all those crimes, and it is natural that we should retaliate in kind. Now we have reached the point where we should subject the enemy to real retribution. If our aim — which is to punish the Iraqi Ba'thist Party and Saddam Husayn — is realized, we would be attaining our right.

We do not insist that we carry out this action with military pressure. If Saddam Husayn, the Ba'th Party, and Israel remain, it would be impossible for lasting peace to exist in the region. The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council reminded: If the Iraqi nation becomes the master of its destiny and if a government desired by the Iraqi people comes to power, we would be prepared to overlook our rights. Otherwise we will retrieve all our rights and losses from the warmongers.

Our policy is that of Islamic retribution and retaliation in kind, which has been accepted as a principle throughout the world. So far we have not used chemical weapons, but things will not be such that if the war continues we will always remain with our hands tied. One day we will carry out the policy of retaliating in kind, which Islam has given us permission to do.

Condemning terrorism, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani then embarked on describing new plots hatched against the Islamic Republic of Iran in the region and referred to the problem of mining the Suez Canal, saying:

[Begin recording] In the Suez Canal we smell a plot, in which certain hands are involved which are acting in an extremely complex manner and pursuing certain aims. These aims are possibly to do with us. We are not so accused yet as to make us the prime target.

There is a possibility that the prime target is the Suez Canal itself! The Americans, the British, and those who were kicked out of the Suez Canal by Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, those whom the Egyptian nation poured out of the region, who now see the puffy, venal, agent clique ruling Egypt and are now manipulating the policy of the region, have now been gripped with avarice in order to bring the Suez Canal once again under their domination. We consider it possible that this is the problem! The fact that for an incident of this simplicity the United States, Italy, France and Britain are dispatching a joint force, are sending helicopters, are sending ships, are sending warships and are being mobilized in their bases in Djibuti, Somali, in Egypt itself, in Saudi Arabia and Northern Yemen: All these things portray the issue in a slightly deeper manner to one's mind. We warn the people of the region, the people of Egypt, the people of Yemen, the people of Saudi Arabia, the people of Northern Yemen, the people of Southern and Northern Yemen, that the issue might even be deeper than these things. From an imaginary area concocted for you, arrogance is about to consolidate its official hegemony over the Suez Canal once again. We also declare to the arrogant themselves: In the problems of Lebanon, the Lebanese people pushed you into the sea and then you fled. The people of Egypt and of the rest of the region are no less capable than the Lebanese and there, too, they shall see to you! It is not possible for the Egyptian nation to gain the glory of liberating the Suez Canal

and then for the "unblessed" Husni Mubarak [a pun on the name of Mubarak using the Persian-Arabic adjective "na-mubarak"] to place the Suez Canal at these people's disposal. This is the concern of the people of the region and we, commensurate with our right in the Suez Canal, attach importance to this issue and do not consider ourselves as neutral in the region. This is one aspect of the problem.

The other possibility is that these things could be tantamount to a plot against the Islamic Republic. We say this to the Egyptians: If you have that sensitive Suez Canal and we must pass through it, this Hormuz Strait is at our disposal and a great many people must pass through it. The clique hatching this plot, no matter who it is, is gradually being recognized. All these people must pass through the Hormuz Strait waterway. If a ship of ours were to be delayed in the Suez Canal under the pretext of inspection, and should our necessary goods be delayed there, as retribution a ship belonging to your clique shall be delayed in the Hormuz Strait [loud cheers] Today the Persian Gulf is no less important than the Suez Canal for the world. Of course, not as many ships may pass through as those going through the Suez Canal. There some 70 ships pass through per day. Perhaps a smaller number of ships are passing here every day, but their importance is greater. Here is the vital artery of the world and one end of this vital artery of the world — its northern end — is entirely in our hands. The sovereignty over this region, more than any other country, even the superpowers, lies in the hands of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Therefore, if you were to hatch plots, were to blacken the name of Iran in the Suez Canal and were to accuse falsely, just as you yourselves know that Iran has neither the power to mine that place nor is it its policy to do so, — if our policy were such, we could have reached other places better — we would like to tell you this accusation will not stick to us and will not stick to our supporters for they do not do such things, as far as we know!

Therefore, should there be a plan one day and should people wish to kindle a fire there, let them prepare themselves for the fact that the smoke arising from that fire, before seeping into our eyes or to the same extent that it would seep into our eyes, it would also seep into their eyes! And in all the problems which we have in the future, in the Persian Gulf, in the chemical issue, in hitting ships, in rendering insecure the waterways and sensitive areas of the world, in terrorism and in every one of these issues which might be used against us as a weapon, we, as far as it is in our power, as far as we can, will use this Islamic principle of retribution. We believe that the path of our life and the continuation of our life and the development of our society depend on our not forgetting this Islamic principle and on our not keeping our enemies safe from divine retribution! [loud cheers] [end recording]

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani at the conclusion of his second sermon noted: Our lasting peace does not include Israel. Lasting peace in the region is not possible while Israel exists in the region. If the region wants lasting peace, Saddam Husayn and Israel should not exist in the region. Therefore, our Ministry of Foreign Affairs has an extensive program in the UN and we expect the Islamic countries to help us in order to expel Israel from the UN. We, as a member of the

UN, are capable of paying a huge portion of the costs currently being secured by the U.S. for the UN.

O world Muslims! Open your eyes and ears and know that those countries that would not cooperate with us in the UN in this connection are not the enemies of Israel!

Haji Leader Addresses Pilgrims in Medinah

LD171439 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
17 Aug 84

[Text] Holy Medina today witnessed the massive march of nearly 100,000 pilgrims to the holy house of God [in Mecca] from various parts of the world. Our special correspondent in Medinah has sent us the following report:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I am sending you this report from holy Medinah. While the pilgrims to the house of God are preparing themselves for taking part in the political-religious Hajj ceremonies, today holy Medinah witnessed a great wave of unprecedented, anti-arrogance demonstrations of the pilgrims to the house of God. Today's demonstrations, in which nearly 100,000 Muslims from all over the world had taken part, reminded one of the epic movement of the Iranian Muslims before the victory of the Islamic revolution. The demonstrators raised their voice with crushing and glorious shouts, chanting slogans such as: God is great, there is no god but God; Muhammad is the prophet of God; death to America; death to Israel; death to Russia; o Muslims unite, unite; hold ye fast to the rope of God; neither East, nor West; Islamic unity, Islamic unity; Lebanon, Lebanon, arise against tyranny and injustice; Afghanistan, Afghanistan, arise against Russia and blasphemy.

The great demonstrations of Muslim pilgrims from all over the world today perfumed the atmosphere of the holy Medina and filled it with the slogans derived from the Islamic ideals of the Muslim community. Today's unprecedented march, which included a large number of Muslims from various strata and from all parts of the world, was a clear and tangible sign of the invincible might of Islamic unity. Today's march — which included a number of clergymen and ulema, including some Sunni brothers from our country, as well as more than 5,000 self-sacrificing fighters, the injured and the esteemed families of martyrs and POW's, side by side with the rest of their Muslim brothers — started from the imam's mission of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution, in Medina. After the chanting of some verses from the holy Koran emphasizing the need for unity and holding fast to the rope of God, the vast throng of marchers chanted blasphemy-crushing slogans and walked to the end of [name indistinct] street.

Then Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, the representative of the imam and the supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, in a detailed speech, talked about the role and necessity of Islamic unity for the advancement of Islamic goals throughout the world. He emphasized: At the moment, the imperialists led by America and communist infidels have forged a unity against Islam and by making use of the disunity of the Muslims they have prepared the way for the greatest calamity in the history of Islam. The

supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims emphasized: Had we been united, America would not have been able to impose aggressive Israel upon Palestine and the Al-Aqsa Mosque and to occupy southern Lebanon. If our disunity continues, the Zionist regime will be able to achieve its satanic goal, which is the domination of Islamic lands from the Nile to the Euphrates. He emphasized: Our disunity has led to U.S. domination over many Islamic governments and countries. The presence of the U.S. fleet in the Persian Gulf is due to the same fact. Also the occupation of Afghanistan and the slaughter of our Afghan sisters and brothers by the aggressive forces is the result of our disunity. Had we been united, Islam would have enjoyed a position of supremacy in the world.

Mr Musavi-Kho'ini emphasized: The opposition of Islamic governments to the ordinances of almighty God is the main reason for the lack of honor and dominant power of the Muslims. God almighty has said in the holy Koran: O ye believers, do not take Jews and Christians as your friends. In the holy Koran it has also been said: O ye believers, do not befriend my enemies and your enemies and do not deal with them with kindness. Many other verses in the book of God emphasize the fact that the Muslims should not regard the infidels as their friends, and they should not befriend those who show disrespect for their religion. Nevertheless, the leaders of Islamic countries have ignored these divine injunctions, and have signed treaties with the enemies of God, and have forged friendships with the governments of blasphemy, polytheism and hypocrisy. They have established overt and covert friendly relations with America.

Addressing Muslim nations and governments, the supervisor of Iranian pilgrims and imam's representative emphasized: The only way to get rid of differences is for all of us to return to God and to Islamic teaching, and to hold fast to the rope of God. This unity will be manifested in the form of general preparedness for taking part in a holy jihad against world arrogance, led by the world-devouring America.

Referring to the expansionist aims of the Zionist regime, which even threatens the two holy shrines, Mr Musavi-Kho'ini said: Is it seemly for us to create disunity among ourselves at a time when Israel has occupied southern Lebanon and is shedding the blood of Palestinian youths, women, and children; or to insult great Islamic (?figures) in Islamic mosques?

Addressing the ulema of Islamic lands, the imam's representative warned: What greater danger is there to Islam than Israel and America? Why do you not make the holy shrines as centers of calls against the oppressors? Why do you not mobilize from here a great force among Muslims, who have come together from the four corners of the earth and who are ready for jihad and for self-sacrifice in the path of God and Islam, in order to liberate Islamic lands from the hands of Zionism? How long should we fight over minor and subsidiary issues?

O ye ulema of Islamic lands, we stretch the hand of brotherhood toward you — a powerful and mighty hand. Do not reject this hand. Come and let us unite so that through this unity we can bring joy to the soul of the prophet of God and regain the lost glory of the Muslims. If we unite, Israel will be destroyed, and Holy Jerusalem will be liberated; Afghanistan will be freed from

the Soviet yoke, and America will be expelled from the Middle East region. Should we unite, the vast oil reserves will belong to the Muslims and the call of God is great will echo throughout the world. The basis of our unity is our belief in God and our fight against all the idols and all the usurping, anti-god governments.

After Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini's speech, the vast throng, like a mighty wave in a glorious march, moved toward the prophet's mosque, while chanting monotheistic, anti-imperialist slogans that embodied the angry call of the Muslims of the world concerning their hatred and revulsion toward America, the Soviet Union, and Israel. The vast crowd of marchers with clenched fists demonstrated the power of Islamic unity and the unity of expression. Then, in order to renew their covenant with God and his prophet and to reaffirm their firm resolve in fighting against blasphemy, polytheism and hypocrisy until the complete establishment of world Islamic government, the marchers went to the prophet's mosque and took part in the Friday prayers, this religious and political move, in accordance with true Islamic goals.

Majlis Votes Approval of New Ministers

LD201128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Correspondent's report on proceedings of 20 August open session of Islamic Consultative Assembly]

[Excerpts] In the name of Allah, the compassionate, the merciful. The Islamic Consultative Assembly gave its vote of confidence to the new ministers of health, industries, and culture and higher education. The deputies voted by ballots and, as a result, Iraj Fazel was appointed minister of culture and higher education with 178 votes for, 14 votes against, and 17 abstentions; 'Ali Reza Marandi was approved as health minister with 174 votes for, 19 against, and 16 abstentions; and Gholam Reza Shafe'i as industries minister with 187 votes for, 7 against, and 15 abstentions.

The Majlis deputies; in implementation of (in accordance with) Article 141 of the Constitution, which allows the prime minister to be temporarily in charge of some ministries in emergency cases, approved that the prime minister should run the Ministries of Education and Defense for 2 months.

Khomeyni Meets Chief Justice, Martyrs' Families

LD191355 Tehran IRNA in English 1331 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 19, IRNA — Chief justice of the Supreme Court, Ayatollah Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili, Sunday met and conferred with the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeyni.

In another development the same day, families of martyrs, crippled, POWs and the missing in action of the Iraqi imposed war of several cities met with the leader of the Islamic Revolution.

During this meeting, Imam Khomeyni's representative and head of the martyrs foundation, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi

praised the patience, self-sacrifice and resistance of the bereaved families and conveyed the thanks of the imam to them.

Emigre Paper Notes State of Khomeyni's Health

GF191206 London KAYHAN in Persian 16 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] Following rumors of Khomeyni's severe illness and his death, which were circulating last week and were even broadcast by some news agencies, we have received a report from our correspondent in Tehran that the condition of Khomeyni's prostate gland cancer has become so highly advanced that he can no longer pass urine. Three Swiss and one German specialist who had come to Tehran to treat Khomeyni returned to Switzerland, but left two of their associates behind.

Apparently, the doctors treating Khomeyni have stated that they are no longer able to do anything for him except to relieve some of his severe pain. Parallel with the reports of Khomeyni's severe state of health are reports on the start of the work on Khomeyni's mausoleum in Behesht — e Zahra. Those visiting the cemetery can see the construction activities in progress. A good deal of construction material has been piled up in the center of the martyrs area and laborers are digging the foundations for a building which undoubtedly is Khomeyni's mausoleum. Guards protect this place around the clock and refuse to answer any questions about it. A number of foreign engineers have also been seen on the site. It has been said that two Italian architects have designed the place and that they have been told by the officials of the regime to design it as a shrine for pilgrimage.

In addition, the council of experts also held a session to look into the issue of Khomeyni's successor. The charter of the council was approved after a number of closed sessions, but no information about this is available.

CSSR Envoy, Velayati Discuss Trade Visit

LD191116 Tehran IRNA in English 1101 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 19, IRNA — The Czech ambassador to Iran, Miroslav Opl, met and conferred with Foreign Affairs Minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Sunday morning.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed expansion of mutual relations and programmes for the forthcoming visit of a high-ranking Czechoslovakian delegation to Iran to be headed by that country's minister of foreign trade.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,822

LD171726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Communique No 1822 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces]

[Text] Exchanges of heavy artillery fire between the forces of Islam and the Saddamist mercenary forces continued in the western and northwestern operational sectors yesterday. Thanks to the fire of our combat units in the northwestern operational sector, 6 enemy light and heavyweight weapons emplacements

were destroyed and 10 Iraqi troops were either killed or wounded. In the western operational sector, three enemy observation posts and six trenches and foxholes were destroyed.

An enemy patrol intended to penetrate our forces' defensive positions in the Meymak region, but thanks to the timely fire of our combatants they suffered losses and were forced to leave the region.

Exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continued in the southern operational sector, with our forces having superior firepower. Enemy losses in this sector were the destruction of 25 bunkers for heavy and light weapons, 4 observation posts, 2 machine guns and 2 trucks carrying troops; more than 20 [number as heard] enemy troops were either killed or wounded. Also in this sector, two Iraqi soldiers were taken prisoner by our warriors.

More on Communique 1,822

LD171739 Tehran IRNA in English 1726 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 17, IRNA — More than 12 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and two others were taken captive during clashes in the preceding 24 hours.

Joint Staff Communique No 1822 said the two were captured in the southern battlefronts, where enemy losses were 25 weapons' positions, four observation posts, two heavy machine guns, two trucks destroyed and two soldiers [as received] killed or wounded.

It said Iraqi long-range fire on Abadan damaged 17 homes Thursday.

In the northwest, ten Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and six weapons' positions were demolished during the same period while in the west three observation posts and six enemy bunkers were set ablaze.

The Islamic forces also repelled infiltrating enemy patrol units in the Meymak fronts of the west after inflicting a number of casualties on them, it added.

Staff Communique No 1,823

LD181712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Communique No 1823 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces]

[Text] During the past 24 hours, the combatants of Islam stationed on the northwestern fronts of the country, defended their positions and returned fire on enemy positions and active units. As a result, enemy fire was silenced and their reconnaissance operations were halted.

Our forces opened fire on an enemy combat unit on one of the said fronts while the unit was on the move and thus their activities were disrupted. Damage and casualties sustained by the enemy in Hajj Umran region include the destruction of 7 foxholes and trenches and 17 soldiers either killed or wounded.

On the border fronts of Bakhtaran, our forces succeeded in destroying three enemy heavy weapons emplacements and killing or wounding five of the Ba'thist Zionist soldiers. At 0240 yesterday morning, an enemy patrol group was detected in the operational region of Sumar and was forced to flee because of the fire of our forces.

On the southern fronts, the heaviest exchanges of fire took place in Kushk, Shalamchek, and Majnun. At 2320 on 16 August an enemy patrol group intended to infiltrate the positions of the forces of Islam in Chazzabeh region, but the reaction and alertness of our patrol units forced them to flee.

In exchanges of fire on the Arvand Rud front, the gendarmerie warriors monitored enemy activities on the Al-Faw-Basra route and destroyed more than 25 heavy and light weapons emplacements and observation posts. Our forces killed or wounded about 10 enemy soldiers.

Staff Communique No 1,824

LD191530 Tehran IRNA in English 1521 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 19, IRNA — Sporadic artillery fire was traded between the Islamic forces of Iran and the Iraqi invaders in most of the battlefronts Saturday, according to a Joint Staff communique published here today.

The communique numbered 1824 said that 18 Iraqi soldiers had been killed and or wounded in the northwestern fronts, and that nine artillery emplacements, two artillery pieces, one telecommunications pole and one ammunition cache of the Iraqi troops had been destroyed.

In the western fronts the Iranian combatants levelled 11 large and small bunkers and three surveillance posts and set ablaze one ammunition depot of the enemy forces.

In the southern fronts the Muslim combatants of Iran heavily pounded many enemy positions and wrecked one enemy tank, three engineering trucks, and levelled three artillery positions of the Iraqi troops across the Arvand river.

About 20 enemy soldiers were reportedly killed or wounded in the southern fronts on Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi troops continued their shelling of residential quarters of the city of Abadan on Saturday damaging nine houses and three shops. Also two locations in the city caught fire upon being hit by shells.

Staff Communique No 1,825

LD201557 Tehran IRNA in English 1533 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 20 IRNA — More than 70 Iraqis were killed or wounded and seven weaponry positions, one communications post and one loader of the enemy were demolished in Hajj Umrans region during the past 24 hours, announced the Joint Staff Command Communique No. 1,825 issued Monday.

The communique further said that exchange of heavy gunfire continued in Hajj Umrans, Panjwin and Marivan fronts during the past day in which the enemy forces sustained casualties and losses.

In the western fronts, the Iraqi fire was silenced and 10 enemy troops were killed or wounded while about 15 light and heavy weaponry positions, two observation posts and one truck were set ablaze and destroyed.

In southern fronts, exchange of fire was intense mostly in Shahrani, Kushk, Abadan and Khorramshahr battle-scenes. The gendarmerie forces destroyed several Iraqi positions, one troop concentration site, and two observation posts as well as killing or wounding several enemy troops.

Abadan was under sporadic Iraqi fire during Sunday as a result of which six houses and six shops were damaged while one civilian was wounded. In Khorramshahr, also, one worker was wounded, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

14 Western Villages Liberated in Operations

LD191700 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] According to a report received from the Hamzeh Seyyed Ash-Shohada headquarters, a series of operations were launched under the codename of Fath in order to cleanse the western border regions of the filth of existence of counterrevolutionaries and mercenaries of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime. During these brave operations along the Piranshah-Mahabad, Sar Dasht-Mahabad, and Qal'eh-ye Pasveh-Mahabad axes, the mighty warriors of Islam, while liberating 14 important and strategic heights, cleansed 14 other villages of the region of the filth of existence of counterrevolutionary elements. The bandits, affiliated with global arrogance, while suffering heavy losses, were forced to flee, and 10 of them were captured.

Iraqi Troops Continue Shelling Khorramshahr

LD191745 Tehran IRNA in English 1729 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Ahvaz, Aug. 19, IRNA — Two civilians were injured and nine private houses and two shops were damaged over the past 24 hours as the Iraqi troops shelled Abadan's inhabited areas from across the borders. Also two locations in the city caught fire as they were hit by shrapnel.

Iraqi troops also continued their shelling of the Iranian city of Khorramshahr during the same period inflicting damages upon some civilian quarters of the city.

Panamanian Ship Attacked by 'Unidentified Plane'

LD181727 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1648 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] A Panamanian ship was attacked in the Persian Gulf by an unidentified plane. According to agencies, shipping sources in Manama have announced that they received messages from a

Panamanian ship that was attacked by an unidentified plane in the Persian Gulf. News agencies reported that the ship had caught fire but no reference was made to the cause of the fire.

Lloyd's Insurance Company announced that tank number two on the mentioned tanker caught fire, having been hit by a missile, but the crew was not harmed.

U.S. Ordered To Reimburse Energy Organization

LD191153 Tehran IRNA in English 1105 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 19 IRNA — The International Court at the Hague has charged the U.S. Administration to pay a sum of 7,933,951 million dollars [amount, dollars as received] to Iran's Atomic Energy Organization.

Announcing this, the head of the Judicial and International Affairs Department at the organisation Mohammad Adibnazari,

said that the amount had been paid by Iran during the former regime as the prepayment for two contracts for the enrichment of uranium with the U.S. on June 30, 1974.

He stressed that the U.S. Administration had not only failed to observe its undertakings during the former regime but also did not intend to pay back the amounts it had received.

But, he added, after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, on Jan. 15, 1982, the Islamic Republic brought the case to the International Court at the Hague.

All excuses by the U.S. at the Hague to exempt it from paying the amounts it had received were rejected by the Islamic Republic, the Iranian official said.

Finally, he noted, the International Court at the Hague ordered the U.S. Administration to pay the amount, adding that further decisions in this respect had been postponed till a future date.